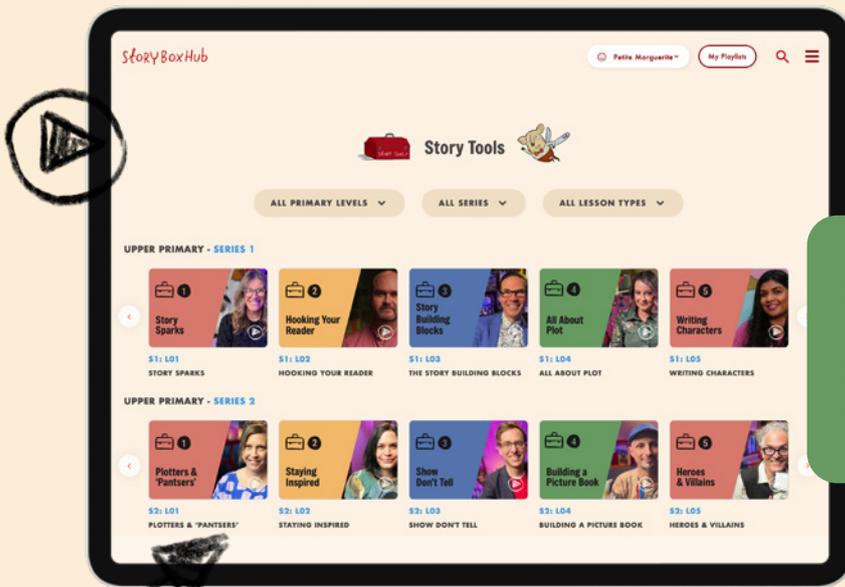


STORYBOXHUB

Educator Resource Guide for Story Tools

A fun and innovative creative writing resource used by teachers, librarians and educators to support literacy programs.



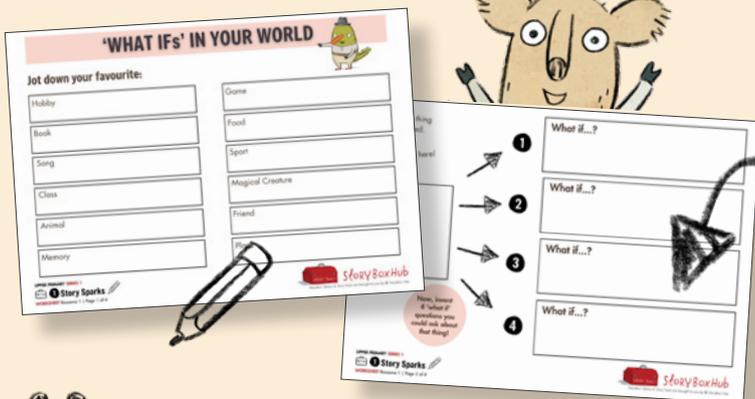
Practical and inspiring tutorials from Australia's most renowned authors and illustrators.



Discover 36 lesson topics and story-making secrets through short, engaging videos.



Each video tutorial comes with a lesson plan and two fun activities to choose from. Downloadable worksheets, exemplars and visual prompts invite children to explore and expand on the ideas introduced in the lesson.



“The children got a lot out of it. I’m very positive towards the whole Story Tools program. The authors are fantastic, the content is great, the resources are out of this world ... everything flowed really well.”

Emily, Teacher-Librarian



From strong readers to strong writers

We've brought StoryBox Library and Story Tools together on one platform to help educators harness and support this powerful connection.

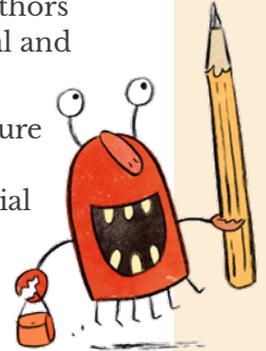
StoryBox Library lays the foundation of a lifelong love of literature with engaging, authentic and high-quality texts.



Exposure to a variety of rich vocabulary, captivating narratives and broad text structures helps develop essential language and literacy skills and storytelling instincts.

Story Tools connects children directly to Australia's most renowned authors and illustrators through practical and inspiring tutorials.

Real world connections to literature helps to make it more relatable and memorable. Plus, each tutorial captures interest and holds students' attention, all whilst having a whole lot of fun!



WHAT IS STORY TOOLS?

A flexible learning approach that supports you

Designed to engage children with the world of writing and storytelling.



Story Tools includes three series, each featuring 12 engaging lessons (see image 1).

Each video runs between 6–9 minutes and offers an inspiring introduction to the lesson topic, featuring behind-the-scenes insights and creative tips from some of Australia's most beloved children's story creators.

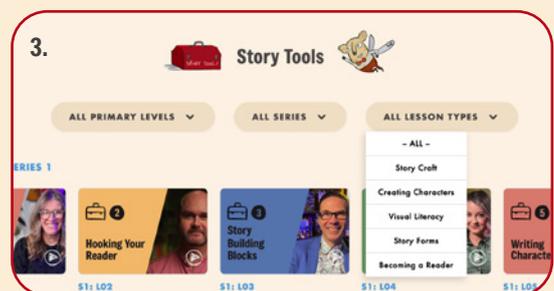
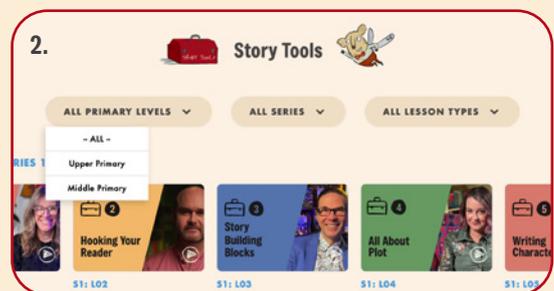
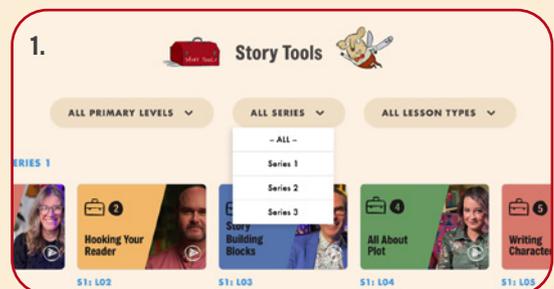
Every lesson is available in both Middle Primary and Upper Primary versions, which can be selected from the homepage drop-down menu (see image 2).

Flexible and easy to use, Story Tools allows you to explore lessons in any order that suits your learning goals. In addition to sorting by level or series, you can also search by lesson type (see image 3), including:

- Story Craft
- Creating Characters
- Visual Literacy
- Story Forms
- Becoming a Reader



Writing feels more personal and achievable with a focus on scaffolding and learner agency.



Your essential creative writing toolkit

Story Tools provides expert video tutorials led by celebrated Australian children’s book creators. These engaging tutorials offer a valuable model for writing instruction, fostering creative confidence and an understanding of authorial voice and process.

5 practical ways to use Story Tools

- 1 Differentiate:** Select lessons that meet students at their level and support varied learning styles.
- 2 Target needs:** Build confidence in tricky areas, such as character development, plot setting or story craft.
- 3 School wide:** Use in other classes besides English, for extension or enhancement programs.
- 4 Extracurricular:** Ideal for CBCA Book Week, writing clubs, creative workshops and library activities.
- 5 Grab and go:** Quickly find lessons that match your focus with no extra preparation needed (lesson plans included!)



Use the following approach for each lesson:

- Familiarise yourself with the video.
- Download the Teacher Pack, noting the resources needed for each activity. Resource names and numbers can be found in the footer of each resource.
- Print the worksheets required.
- Begin the lesson with the pre-video discussion prompts found under ‘Discussion Questions’.
- Play the video in its entirety.
- Explore the video content with your students using the post-video discussion prompts found under ‘Discussion Questions’.
- Display provided ‘Reference Materials’ on your whiteboard or screen as needed.

What educators are saying ...

“Punchy and engaging. Plus activities that are easy to roll out!”

Amelia,
Primary Educator

“Open-ended, so versatile across year levels.”

Jackie,
Primary Educator

“Helpful for teachers who need high-quality resources.”

Karys,
Secondary Educator

What's in a Story Tools lesson plan?

Click on a lesson plan to access the full suite of materials.

The screenshot shows a lesson plan page for 'Hooking your reader' in the 'UPPER PRIMARY' series. At the top, there's a video player with a 'PLAY' button and a '2' in a circle. Below the video, the lesson description is visible, including 'Learning Intentions', 'Discussion Questions', and 'Curriculum Links'. To the right, there are sections for 'CREATORS' (listing Lib Wilkinson and Mat Larkin), 'RESOURCES' (including a Teacher Pack, Activity 1, Activity 2, and Reference Materials), and 'FOR LIBRARIES' (Library Resource Pack). Below the main content, there are 'Related Lessons' and 'Related Stories' sections, each with a carousel of thumbnails for other lessons and books.



View the lesson description



Access learning intentions, discussion questions and curriculum links



Links to related StoryBox Library content



Learn about the featured creators



Access all resources including Teacher Pack, activities, supplementary material and additional activities

Select related lessons



Authentic connections can create lasting impact, when children hear directly from expert creators.



WHAT'S IN A TEACHER PACK?

Resources designed by educators for educators

Each lesson includes a comprehensive suite of resources.

- Teacher Pack
- Worksheets, templates, games and more
- Additional activity and extension ideas
- Examples to model writing
- Writing prompts
- Reference materials for display and discussion
- Learning intentions, discussion questions and curriculum links

Activity 1
PRINTABLE RESOURCE
 Downloadable worksheets for Activity 1.

Teacher Pack
PRINTABLE RESOURCE
 A step-by-step guide for running the lesson activities with your group.

Activity 2
PRINTABLE RESOURCE
 Downloadable worksheets for Activity 2.

Reference Materials
DIGITAL RESOURCE
 Posters, examples, references and more to help complete the activities.
 * Best viewed online.

WHAT IF'S IN YOUR WORLD

Write down your favourite:

Hobby	Game
Book	Food
Song	Sport
Class	Magical Creature
Animal	Friend
Memory	

Imagine you are standing in this place. What are you thinking about?

Do you like it here? Why or why not? What is one important fact you might want to add to this place to boost it?

Choose one thing you have listed. Write it here!

- What if...?
- What if...?
- What if...?
- What if...?

Now, invent 4 'what if' questions you could ask about that thing!

THE STORIES IN THE PICTURE

Describe what you see in the picture.

How might you get here? What might you find in this place?

What might be here? What is the weather like?

What sounds can you hear? What might you smell?

Imagine you are standing in this place. What are you thinking about?

Do you like it here? Why or why not? What is one important fact you might want to add to this place to boost it?

Choose one thing you have listed.

Ernie's favourite hobby!

Travelling and exploring new places

Now, invent 4 'what if' questions you could ask about that thing!

- What if...? Ernie caught the wrong plane and ended up in the desert instead of the beach!
- What if...? Ernie went on a holiday and made a new friend who showed him the sights!
- What if...? Ernie found an enchanted ticket for a mysterious magical flying bus!
- What if...? Ernie's train to the seaside was taken over by a gang of pirate mermaids!

-
-
-
-



MEET THE CREATORS



Story Tools creators include:

- Anna Walker ■ Davina Bell ■ George Ivanoff ■ Nicki Greenberg ■ David Booth
- Nova Weetman ■ Lili Wilkinson ■ Mat Larkin ■ Melissa Keil ■ Ben McKenzie
- Karys McEwen ■ Jane Godwin ■ Adam Wallace ■ Jess Racklyeft ■ Bernard Caleo
- Mandy Ord ■ Susannah Chambers ■ Sasha Beekman ■ Scott Edgar ■ Claire Saxby
- Jess McGeachin ■ Valanga Khoza ■ Ailsa Wild ■ Heidi McKinnon ■ Andrew McDonald
- Shirley Marr ■ Anna McGregor ■ Campbell Whyte ■ Elise Hurst ■ Kirli Saunders
- James Foley ■ Emily Gale ■ Leanne Hall ■ Tamala Shelton ■ Shaun Tan ■ Aśka ■ Meg McKinlay



Anna Walker



Shaun Tan



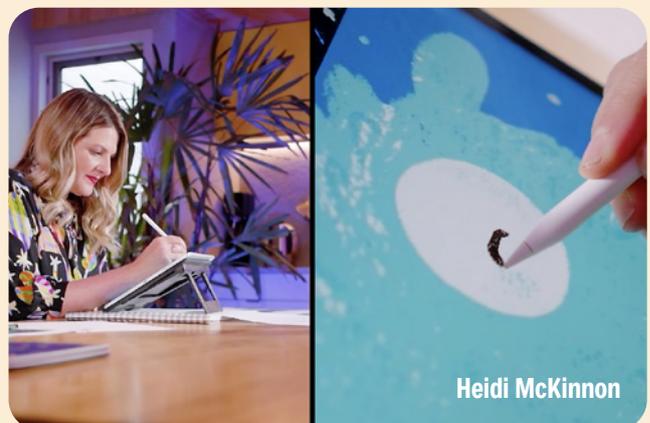
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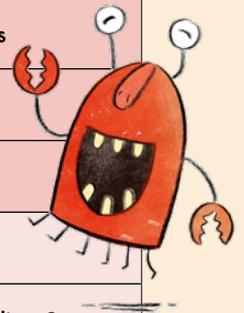


Seeing the storyteller behind the story boosts curiosity, builds confidence and can inspire reluctant writers to put pen to paper!

From ideas to stories: creative lesson titles

Engage students with video lessons full of literary tips and tricks!

TOPIC	SERIES 1	SERIES 2	SERIES 3
Story Craft: Building Blocks, Tips, Tools & Tricks	1: Story Sparks	1. Plotters & 'Pantsers'	1. All About Conflict
	2. Hooking Your Reader	2. Staying Inspired	2. Plot Twists
	3. The Story Building Blocks	3. Show Don't Tell	3. Place & Time
Creating Characters	4. All About Plot	4. Building a Picture Book	5. Writing Endings
	5. Writing Character	5. Heroes & Villians	5. All About Voice
Illustration Tips & Techniques	6. Introducing Illustrated Stories	6. Illustrating a Book Cover	6. Storyboarding
	7. Drawing Characters	7. Illustration Styles	7. From Sketch to Finished Art
Exploring Story Forms	8. All About Genre	8. Graphic Storytelling	8. Wordless Stories
	9. Rhyming Stories	9. All About Non-fiction	9. All About Zines
	10. All About Picture Books	10. Researching for Non-fiction	10. Audio Fiction
Becoming a Reader	11. Editing	11. The Book Factory	11. Book Design
	12. Reading Stories	12. Performance Storytelling	12. Making a Reading Space



99

“It made writing fun because it felt like I was learning from real experts. I also liked that we could try out what we learned in our own stories. It helped me feel more confident in my writing and made me want to write even more!”

Student, Christ Our Holy Redeemer Primary School